

REMARKS

Claims 1-50 remain pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of all pending claims in light of the remarks presented herein.

The Office Action indicates that Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-50 were considered but are moot in view of new grounds for rejection. (Office Action, Section 3). The Office Action, however, does not provide any new ground for rejection and restates the previous rejection. Applicant respectfully reasserts the arguments presented in the communication filed on December 3, 2008 and requests that the Examiner consider the arguments.

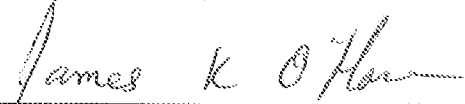
Applicant notes that the Office Action indicates that US Publication US 2003/0210735 to Ann and US Publication US 2003/0118086 to Pietilla. (Office Action, Section 7). The Office Action, however, states that these references were not relied on. A short summary of the Ann and Pietilla is provided but no analysis with respect to Applicant's claim language is provided.

If a rejection is to be maintained, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner either address each argument presented in the communication filed on December 3, 2008 or find a new ground for rejection and provide the proper analysis showing why the invention is anticipated or rendered obvious by the prior art.

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested. Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 8, 2009

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